

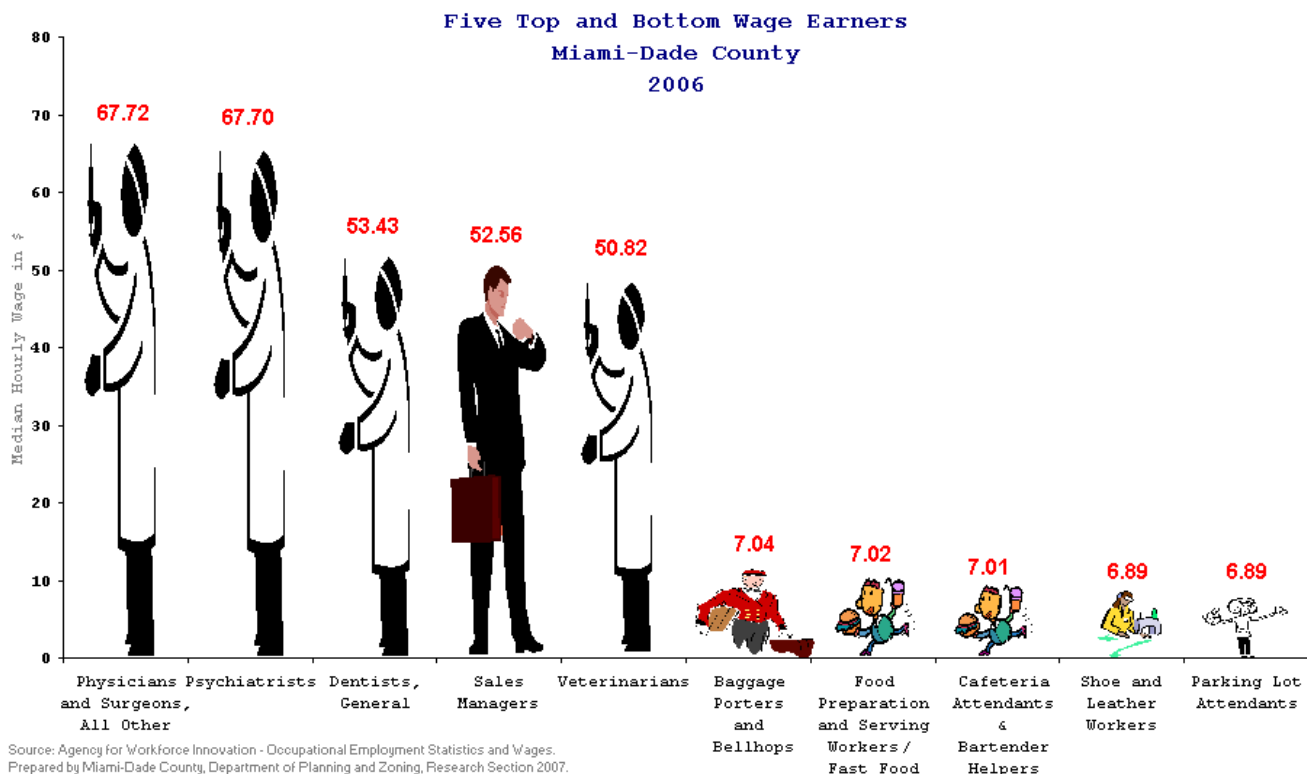
Miami-Dade County's *Wages* at a Glance

This is the second of a series of brief narratives on different socio-economic issues pertaining to Miami-Dade County. This issue will deal with wages for a variety of occupations within the Miami-Dade area.

In Miami-Dade, as in the rest of the country, wage levels are primarily determined by skill and/or the educational levels required, as well as by relative scarcity. Of course, from an economic point of view, wages reflect the price of labor determined within the

the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation data at: www.labormarketinfo.com.

In 2006, six out of the top ten wage earners were in the health care industry (See Table 1.) Those occupations not in health care included Sales and Engineering Managers, Physicists, Pharmacists and Broadcast News Analysts. All with a median wage rate of at least \$46.50 per hour.



supply and demand structure of the labor market.

Wage rates presented here are estimates of median hourly wages for the second quarter of 2006. The figures are derived from the Occupational Employment Statistics Program conducted by the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

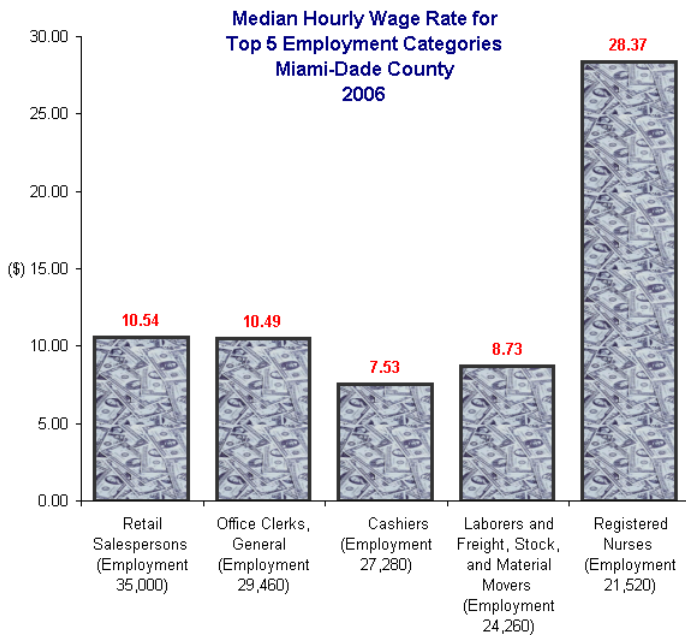
For in-depth information on occupations, in terms of earnings and their outlook for the future, check

At the lowest end of the wage scale, earning less than one-eighth the hourly rate of the top paid occupations, were low skilled service occupations specifically Parking Lot Attendants, Shoe and Leather Workers, Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants, Fast Food Workers, and Baggage Porters. All of these occupations had a median wage rate of approximately \$7.00.

The top ten occupations by number of employees have a combined total of 227,000 workers or

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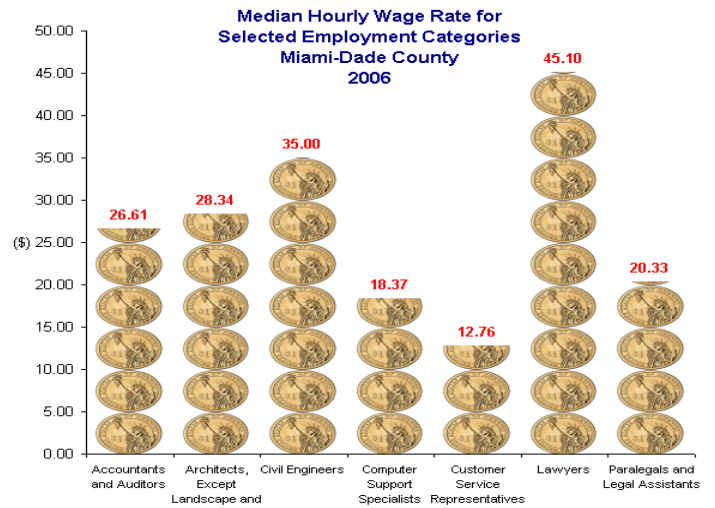
22.6 percent of total employment. See Table 2 that lists the top 10 occupational categories by level of employment and wage rate. Of these ten occupations, five have median hourly wage rates below \$10.00, four were in the \$10.00 to \$20.00 range and one was above \$20.00. The chart below graphically depicts the wage rates for the top five of these ten occupations.



Source: Agency for Workforce Innovation - Occupational Employment Statistics and Wages. Prepared by Miami-Dade County, Department of Planning and Zoning, Research Section 2007.

The highest wage rate, when we consider only the top ten occupations in terms of numbers of employees, also belonged to the healthcare industry. There were 21,520 Registered Nurses with median earnings of \$28.37 per hour. The most common occupation, which is Retail Salespersons with 35,000 employees, displayed a median wage rate of \$10.54. The lowest wage earned by any of the top ten occupations was \$7.53 by the 27,280 Cashiers in the County.

Other occupations that may be of interest and their respective wage rates are shown in the chart that follows:



Source: Agency for Workforce Innovation - Occupational Employment Statistics and Wages. Prepared by Miami-Dade County, Department of Planning and Zoning, Research Section 2007.

There are 7,570 lawyers in Miami-Dade earning a median wage rate of \$45.10. Supporting these attorneys are 3,280 Paralegals and Legal Assistants. At \$20.33, they have a median wage less than half of that of lawyers. Of the remaining professions shown on the chart, Civil Engineers have a median wage rate of \$35.00, while Accountants and Architects are paid significantly less at \$26.61 and \$28.34 respectively. Together these three occupations have 14,030 employees.

When we compare the County to the nation as a whole, the wage disparity in Miami-Dade is consistent with the County's greater income inequality viz a viz the nation (a topic that will be discussed in a later edition). The three most highly compensated professions, measured by mean or average wages, are Chief Executives, Internists and Physicians. They displayed a higher wage rate at the county level than at the national level, by 18, 4 and 6 percent respectively. While the lowest paid occupations that include Parking Lot Attendants, Shoe and Leather Workers, and Graders and Sorters earned 18, 29 and 15 percent less in the County than in the nation as a whole.

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Table 1
Top 10 and Bottom 10 Occupations by Median Wage
Miami-Dade County
2006

Occupation Title	2006 Hourly Wage Estimate	
	Mean	Median
All occupations	18.02	11.74
Top 10*		
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	72.71	67.72
Psychiatrists	70.02	67.70
Dentists, General	59.83	53.43
Sales Managers	57.34	52.56
Veterinarians	60.38	50.82
Physicists	49.99	48.57
Audiologists	39.95	47.26
Engineering Managers	51.73	46.88
Broadcast News Analysts	52.36	46.75
Pharmacists	45.01	46.50
Bottom 10		
Bartenders	9.26	7.23
Ushers, Lobby Attendants, and Ticket Takers	7.61	7.22
Packers and Packagers, Hand	8.70	7.15
Farm workers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	8.43	7.09
Textile, Apparel, and Furnishings Workers, All Other	7.64	7.07
Baggage Porters and Bellhops	8.20	7.04
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	7.65	7.02
Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	7.63	7.01
Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers	7.34	6.89
Parking Lot Attendants	7.24	6.89

* For the Occupations of Chief Executives, Obstetricians and Gynecologists Median Wage is not reported.

Source: Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labormarketinfo.com. OES - Occupational Employment Statistics and Wages
Miami-Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning, Research Section 2007.

Miami-Dade County's *Wages* at a Glance

Table 2
Top 10 Occupations by Employment
Miami-Dade County
2006

Occupation Title	Employment	2006 Hourly Wage Estimate	
		Mean	Median
All occupations	1,004,950	18.02	11.74
Top 10			
Retail Salespersons	35,000	12.31	10.54
Office Clerks, General	29,460	11.22	10.49
Cashiers	27,280	8.28	7.53
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	24,260	9.46	8.73
Registered Nurses	21,520	28.57	28.37
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing. *	20,050	23.51	18.93
Security Guards	18,220	9.45	8.99
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	17,470	9.00	8.36
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	16,890	15.02	13.98
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	16,740	10.05	9.18

* Complete Name: Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products
Source: Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labormarketinfo.com. OES - Occupational Employment Statistics and Wages
Miami-Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning, Research Section 2007